TAPIR Theoretical AstroPhysics Including Relativity & Cosmology

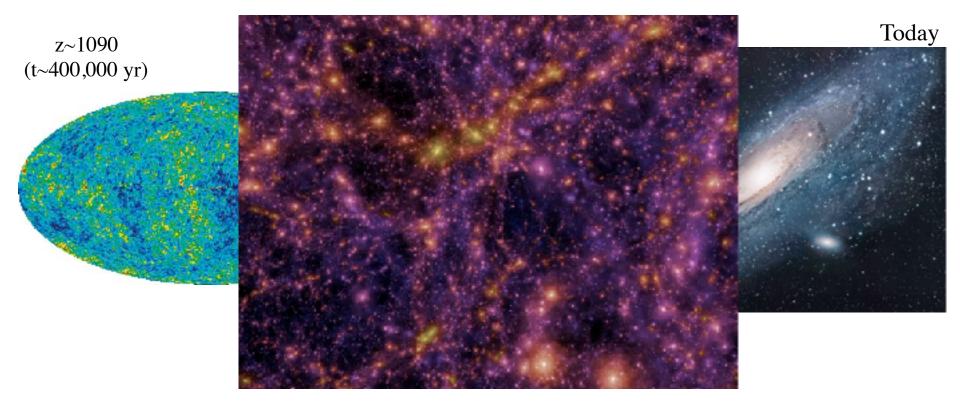
http://www.tapir.caltech.edu





Cahill Center for Astronomy and Astrophysics, 3rd Floor

Cosmology & Galaxy Formation - HOW DO WE GO FROM BIG BANG TO MILKY WAY?



- Formation of structure in the Universe
- Probes of dark matter & dark energy
- Galaxy formation: why do our models fail so badly?



Philip Fajardo-Hopkins



Olivier Dore

From Galaxies to Planets - SCALES ~ 10¹² - 10²⁸ cm

Phil Hopkins

Collapse of a disk around a young star to form a giant planet by gravitational instability

Jim Fuller



580 Myr

kpc

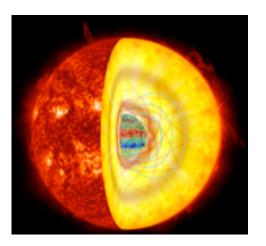
Konstatin Batygin

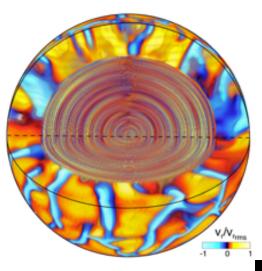
Inter-stellar medium phases: "cold" (blue), "warm" (pink) and "hot" yellow



- How do planets form? Why are there planets unlike anything in our solar system?
- How does this impact back on stars/galaxies?
- Chaotic dynamics, turbulence, radiation, magnetic fields, and self-gravitating fluids, all together at last!

Explosions, Extreme Stars, & Stellar Evolution - EXTREME PHYSICS & GRAVITATIONAL-WAVE COUNTERPARTS







Mark Scheel



- Supernovae explosions: GR-neutrino-magnetohydrodynamics, gravitational wave signals, nuclear physics in extreme systems
- Astro-seismology: Seeing inside stars and SNe; using Saturn's rings to probe earthquakes deep inside; new plasma physics
- White dwarf mergers: New stars? Supernovae?
- Neutron star mergers: Origins of gold and other elements? New GR tests! Seeing the counterparts in gravitational waves!

145.67 ms

Neutrino-driven SNe explosion

Saul Teukolsky

High-Energy Astrophysics

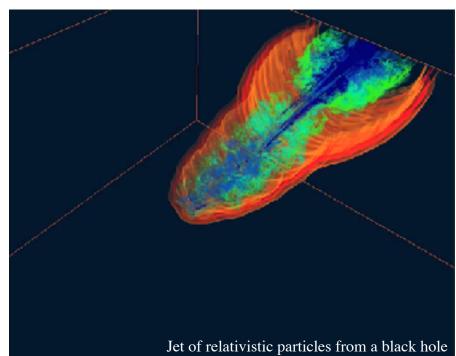
Sterl Phinney







- White dwarfs, neutron stars, and black holes: Why do they light up? How do they form?
- Flares? Supernovae? Variables? Disruption? Connected to major observational searches (ZTF, LIGO, NuStar, and more)
- Mergers & electromagnetic signatures from compact objects (LIGO & LISA)
- Plasma physics in extreme environments



Theoretical Relativity & Gravitational Waves

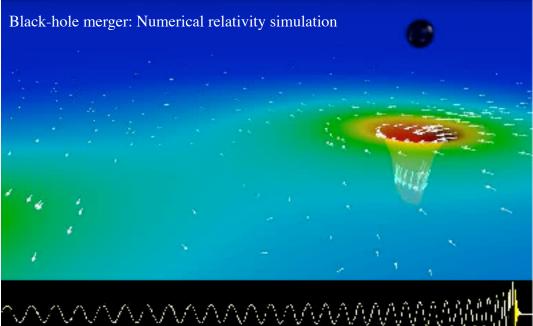
Saul Teukolsky





Yanbei Chen





- Predict & understand LIGO events. New GR discoveries
- Analytic & numerical GR: understand fundamental predictions of relativity
- Test relativity & alternative gravity theories
- Design 3rd-generation gravitational wave detectors (LIGO 3, quantum non-demolition, macroscopic QM: "Quantum optics" for new GR tests)
- Astrophysics: BH spin, growth, kicks, gamma-ray bursts, neutron-star mergers, supernovae



Michele Vallisneri

Bela Szilagyi



Curt Cutler

